

Notice of Allowability**Application No.**

09/921,169

Applicant(s)

RINCON ET AL.

Examiner

Trung Q. Nguyen

Art Unit

2829

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 08/28/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-25.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 02 August 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. <u>1003</u> |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____ | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other |



ERNEST KARLSEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Michael K. Skrehot on October 10th, 2003. The application has been amended as follows:

Please cancel claims 26-27.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-25 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: claims 1 and 24-25 recite, inter alia, "a probe card contact apparatus comprising one or more comb assemblages having a plurality of two-metal probe needles adhered to the first surface of a polymeric film segment wherein the fine tips of the needle extend beyond the film, and the fingers on the opposite end are secured atop the curved surface of support block." A two-metal needle structure combines highly reliable, noble metal tips with low cost fingers, which may further be optimized for performance.

The art of record does not disclose the above limitations, nor would it be obvious to modify the art of record so as to include the above limitations. Although Taura et al. (U.S. 6,310,483) disclose Longitudinal type high frequency probe for narrow pitched electrodes and Burr et al. (U.S. 5,565,788) disclose a Coaxial wafer probe with tip shielding, they do not disclose the above-mentioned limitations.

Claims 26-27 do not disclose the above limitations, in addition, claims 26-27 falling into a different class/subclass.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Trung Nguyen whose telephone number is (703)-305-4925. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:30AM – 5:00PM. The fax numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cuneo Kamand can be reached at (703) 308-1233.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)-308-0956.

Trung Nguyen
Patent Examiner
Group Art Unit 2829
October 14, 2003

Ernest P. Karlson
ERNEST KARLSEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER